

Insurance Exchange Building (Formerly
State Bank of Wisconsin)
210 East Michigan Avenue
Milwaukee
Milwaukee County
Wisconsin

HABS No. WIS-157

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PHOTOGRAPHS
WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

Historic American Buildings Survey
National Park Service
Eastern Office, Division of Design and Construction
143 South Third Street
Philadelphia 6, Pennsylvania

INSURANCE EXCHANGE BUILDING
(FORMERLY STATE BANK OF WISCONSIN)

Location: 210 East Michigan Avenue, Milwaukee, Milwaukee County, Wisconsin

Present Owner: Chris. Schroeder and Sons Company, 210 East Michigan Avenue, Milwaukee, Wisconsin

Present Occupants: Various business offices

Present Use: Office building

Brief Statement of Significance: Built in 1856-1857, this building, which has very original ornament, is representative of an early period in Milwaukee's history.

PART I. HISTORICAL INFORMATION

A. Physical History:

1. Original owner: The State Bank of Wisconsin, which is now defunct.
2. Date of erection: 1856-1857.
3. Notes on alterations and additions: Some ornament is apparently missing from the window pediments on the third and fourth floors. The interiors have been entirely altered to accommodate the present occupants.

- B. Reference: Ted Mueller, Milwaukee Guide, ms. in the files of the Milwaukee Journal, n.d.

PART II. ARCHITECTURAL INFORMATION

- A. General Statement: This building is an early example of Italian revival in this region, but with unusual, highly original ornament. The building is in good condition.
- B. Description: The building faces south. It has a limestone facade with brick rear portions, a rectangular plan 45' wide (the facade on East Michigan Avenue) by 42' deep, and is four stories high plus an elevated basement.

The facade, heavily membered and ornamented, is divided into three bays by rusticated pilasters that are partially vermiculated. There are moulded cornices between the floors and a deeply projecting roof cornice with dentil course and pediment over the center bay.

The windows and entrance have deeply projecting, carved stone frames with pediments of various types and heavy foliated and figured ornament.

Prepared by Henry C. Edwards, Architect
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